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UNCLAS VIENNA 002940

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR JANET SHANNON
DEPT PLEASE PASS TO USAID (DALE SKORIC)
DEPT OF AGRICUTLURE FOR FAS (ELIZABETH AUTRY)
ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EAGR](#) [AU](#) [WTO](#) [AID](#)

SUBJECT: FOOD AID AND THE WTO: AUSTRIAN RESPONSE

REF: STATE 155973

1. On August 25-26, Post conveyed reftel nonpaper on proposed reform recommendations for the FAO's Consultative Subcommittee on Surplus Disposal (CSSD) to Gabriella Habermayer, Head of the Ministry of Economy's Multilateral Trade Division; to Friedrich Huemer, Head of the Ministry of Agriculture's International Trade Division; and to Franz Hoerlberger, the MFA's point-of contact for FAO issues. In an August 31 follow-up discussion with Econ Unit Chief, Habermayer agreed that the WTO was not the proper form to monitor food aid disciplines. Habermayer added that, in principle, the GoA supported a reform of the CSSD, but she questioned whether it was feasible to reform the moribund CSSD thoroughly. Nevertheless, Habermayer said the GoA would support a convocation of a working group, under the auspices of the FAO, to evaluate CSSD reform proposals.
Brown